



NEWS

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Assemblymember
41st District

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Nonpartisan Survey Confirms Overwhelming Public Support for Environmental Policies

The Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) released its annual "Special Survey on the Environment" last month - www.ppic.org. Surveying 2,501 adult California residents across the state, they examined a range of issues, including air quality and health, environment and politics, and global warming and energy, along with the attitudes of the public.

I was struck, but not surprised, by the finding that seven in 10 Californians, and on a bipartisan basis, support tougher air pollution standards on new cars, trucks and SUVs. This is precisely what my 2002 bill, AB 1493, will do beginning with the model year 2009. 81% of all adults surveyed support spending more government money to develop alternative sources of fuel for automobiles, and 83% to develop renewable energy such as solar, geothermal, and wind power.

Attitudes toward global warming were similarly tilted in support of evidence that the effects of global warming are already underway. 63% hold this belief, which is a six-point increase over PPIC's survey a year ago. Eight in 10 residents believe that global warming will be either a "very" (49%) or "somewhat" (30%) serious threat to California's future economy and quality of life. The percentage believing that it will be "very" serious has jumped 10% since last year.

And they expect their government to respond. Californians are particularly unhappy with the direction of the Federal government. 54% surveyed feel it is on the wrong track when it comes to addressing the issue of global warming. Roughly 2/3 favor having the state make our own policies on this issue. It is unfortunate that the U.S. still remains the only industrialized nation in the world not to have adopted the Kyoto Protocols. The good news is that California can act at the state level.

A MONTHLY ELECTRONIC
NEWSLETTER TO THE
41st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Agoura Hills
Calabasas
Encino
Malibu
Hidden Hills
Lake Sherwood
Oak Park
Pacific Palisades,
Port Hueneme
South Oxnard
Santa Monica
Tarzana
Topanga
Westlake Village
Woodland Hills

The U.S. has 5% of the world's population, yet contributes 25% of its greenhouse gas emissions -- the major contributor to global warming. My bill, AB 32, jointly authored by Speaker Fabian Nunez, will direct the California Air Resources Board to establish a program that will require the reporting of statewide greenhouse gas emissions, and use that as a baseline to put a limit or cap on those who contribute emissions in order to begin to reduce their emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020. This is a first-in-the-nation cap that has drawn the wrath of big oil companies and other polluters, but which the PPIC survey found two out of three people supporting.

Special kudos to both the Los Angeles City Council and the *Los Angeles Times* for their recent support of AB 32.

Since this bill faces stiff industry opposition, my colleagues in the Legislature need to hear from the public ASAP. Here are two websites that will make it easy for you to do so. Please either phone or fax the Environmental Defense or Natural Resources Defense Council offices, or use the link they provide to send an e-mail. **Thank you!**

www.environmentaldefense.org/go/ca/globalwarming

www.nrdc.org/globalwarming/ncalifornia.asp

Prime Minister Blair Comes to California To Discuss Global Warming

Last month, I had the opportunity and privilege of meeting British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who was in California for a series of meetings focused on his passion for addressing global warming. I met him at a reception at the Getty Villa museum in Malibu. He spoke very eloquently, and also participated on a panel at UCLA with former President Bill Clinton and the mayors of Los Angeles, San Francisco, and London on what each is doing to address climate change.

All were in full agreement that we need a clean independent energy future. Prime Minister Blair said that we can address this problem. It can be done. And that nations just need the political will to craft a new binding agreement. He spoke enthusiastically about the fantastic opportunity before us to create new jobs for a new clean economy.

And he noted that global warming, if left unchecked, will dramatically affect the poorest people on earth, who lack the resources to adapt. The Prime Minister ended his comments by reminding us all of the moral responsibility we will all bear "if we do not regard this issue with the gravity it demands."



2005-06 Legislative Session Races to the Finish Line

With August 31 as the last day for all 2005-06 legislation to be acted on in Sacramento, these last two weeks will be extremely busy. Here are some of the key bills that are still active, both my own and authored by others.

AB 32 (Nuñez/Pavley) –

California Global Warming Solutions Act

As described above, AB 32 establishes a mandatory reporting system to track and monitor greenhouse gas emission levels being generated from the fossil fuel and utility and any other sectors that produce significant emissions, like landfills and oil refineries. It will institute a limit on greenhouse gas emissions – requiring emission reductions in California to 1990 levels by the year 2020. The bill also directs the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop a regulatory framework of emission reduction strategies which may include programs, measures, and market-based flexible compliance options.

Sponsors: Environmental Defense and Natural Resources Defense Council

To Senate on third reading

AB 1681 (Pavley) - Lead in Jewelry

Codifies the global settlement reached in the Proposition 65 case between the Center for Environmental Health (CEH), the Attorney General, and a large group of retailer and wholesaler defendants. Lead is a known neurotoxin and a significant health risk, especially for children who may chew or suck on lead-coated jewelry. This bill sets a lead content standard for all types of jewelry imported into, and sold and distributed in California.

To Senate on third reading

AB 2264 (Pavley) – CA Vehicle Fleet Fuel Economy Standard of 2006

Requires the Department of General Services and the Energy Commission to increase fuel economy standards for state fleet vehicles and use those standards for vehicles purchased after January 1, 2008, which will reduce California's dependence on foreign oil.

Sponsor: Hon. Steve Westly

To Senate on third reading

AB 2513 (Pavley) - Autism Information Center

Establishes the California Autism Information and Professional Development Center to be developed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The goal is to improve instruction for children with autism in our public schools. Autism is the fastest growing special education eligibility category for public education in California and in the nation. The recent National Survey of Autism found that one in every 175 children has autism. This contrasts with the older estimate of one in every 2,000.

Sponsor: Las Virgenes Unified School District

To Senate on third reading

AB 2723 (Pavley) - Solar Incentive Program for Affordable Housing

Provides developers of affordable housing with access to an incentive program to be developed by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) that would help finance the gap between the total cost of a solar system and the amount received through current rebate programs. Ensures that 10% of the California Solar Initiative will go to low-income residents.

Sponsors: Global Green USA and the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life

To Senate on third reading

AB 2838 (Pavley) - Coastal Fee Increase Authorization

Provides a state/local funding option to address a range of environmental problems resulting from motor vehicle pollution and infrastructure in coastal and bay counties. AB 2838 enacts the Coastal Environment Motor Vehicle Mitigation Program, administered by the State Coastal Conservancy, Department of Motor Vehicles, and participating counties. It will enable counties, at their choice, to opt into a dedicated funding source to support appropriate projects. County Boards of Supervisors would have to approve the registration fee increase by a 2/3 vote before it could become effective.

Sponsors: California Coastal Coalition and Trust for Public Lands

To Senate on third reading

AB 2875 (Pavley) – Secret Settlements

Prohibits confidential settlements in any civil action pertaining to a felony sex offense. Statistics show a significant rate of recidivism for sexual predators. When settlements require secrecy as the price of compensation for victims, the result is a significant increase in the likelihood of repeated molestations. It is imperative that we do all we can to safeguard our children and communities from sexual predators.

On the Governor's desk

BY OTHER LEGISLATORS:

AB 1835 (Lieber) – Minimum Wage

Steps up the minimum wage to \$7.50 by January of 2007 and \$8.00 by January of 2008, indexed to inflation.

To Senate on third reading

AB 1381 (Nuñez) – LAUSD Mayoral Control

Gives partial control over some L.A. Unified School District operations to L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, including the appointment of the District Superintendent.

To Senate on third reading

AB 2987 (Nuñez) – Cable Franchising

Enacts the *Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act of 2006*, establishing the Public Utilities Commission as the state's sole cable and video franchising authority. Potentially ends local franchise agreements and places that power in the hands of the state to open up competition to other providers.

To Senate on third reading

SB 426 (Simitian) – LNG Terminal Evaluation

Enacts the *Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal Evaluation Act*, which will require the state to evaluate and rank every proposed LNG terminal, including on public health, safety, and environmental impacts, and to hold public hearings as part of that evaluation.

Will be amended on Assembly floor or in committee

SB 760 (Lowenthal) – Port Congestion Relief and Security Enhancement
Imposes a fee on shipping containers, a percentage of which would be used by the port for security projects, including screening of containers; a percentage to the Port Congestion Relief Trust Fund to improve the rail system that moves containers to and from the ports; and a percentage to the South Coast AQMD to mitigate environmental pollution caused by port activities.

Held in Assembly Appropriations

SB 840 (Kuehl) – Universal Health Care
Establishes the *California Health Insurance System* which would make all California residents eligible for specified health care benefits on a single-payer basis.

To Assembly floor

SB 1379 (Perata) – Biomonitoring
Requires the California Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control to monitor the presence and concentration of designated chemicals, as a part of the role of the Department of Health Services to protect the public from exposure to toxins.

To Assembly floor

SB 1613 (Simitian) – Vehicle Cell Phone Use
Makes it an infraction to drive a motor vehicle while using a cell phone unless it is configured to allow hands-free listening and talking operation, or being used in an emergency situation.

To Assembly floor

SB 1773 (Alarcon) – Trauma Center Funding
Allows counties to increase assessments on criminal offenses and moving violations by \$2 on every \$10, and to apply the new funds toward trauma centers.

To Assembly floor

Hybrid Vehicles in Carpool Lanes -- Q and A

My 2004 bill, AB 2628, which allows owners of qualifying low-emission vehicles to use carpool lanes with no passengers has been predictably popular. The pilot program also required Caltrans to do a study this summer to determine whether the program would have any significant impact on traffic flow in the carpool lanes. That study has now been completed. Caltrans found “no apparent impacts on the HOV [carpool] network” and, therefore, the DMV can continue issuing the decals up to the statutory limit.

Here are two common questions I’ve been receiving:

How long will this program last?

The bill capped the number of decals that the DMV could issue at 75,000. To date, roughly 64,000 have been issued, and the limit is likely to be reached some time in the next few months. The program itself will sunset on January 1, 2008.

As to a car that has decals, does the privilege transfer on resale to a new owner?

Yes. Identifying decals are issued to the vehicle, not to the owner. On any sale or transfer of the vehicle, the new owner can continue to use the HOV lane decals until the pilot program ends. Applications for qualifying vehicles can still be filed with the DMV electronically at:

www.dmv.ca.gov.

Legislative Hearing on Port Security

While I'm busy in Sacramento, my District Office staff also stays busy, including attending hearings in the area on issues on which I need to stay informed. One this month was a Quarterly Legislative Staff Briefing by the Port of Long Beach that took place starting with a boat tour of the Harbor in the morning. In the afternoon there was a Joint Hearing of three legislative committees (Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Services and Homeland Security, Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing, and the Subcommittee on California Ports and Goods Movement.)

Subjects included balancing security and cost, concerns about the current port security status, a developing program to do background checks on all port workers, and what California can do on these otherwise Federal issues.



Several things were made very clear:

- There needs to be a system developed to prioritize container arrivals so that in the event of a Port closure or interruption, the most valuable and important cargo would be received first.
- Part of the Port's security challenge is that encompasses 43 miles of shoreline.
- If just half of the Port complex was closed for a year following some kind of attack, our economy would take a \$45 billion hit. 2/3 of that would be to the U.S. economy, but a full 1/3 would be to California.

Thanks to my Senior Assistant, Timothy Lippman, for driving to Long Beach for this long, but substantive and very important, hearing.

Public Meeting on Rocketdyne "Burn Pit" Cleanup

On Thursday, August 31 at 6:30 p.m., the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will be holding a public meeting on the status of cleanup of the Boeing/Rocketdyne site in Chatsworth. It will be held at Simi Valley City Hall, 2929 Tapo Canyon Road, in Simi Valley.

From roughly 1959 through the early 1980s, Rocketdyne used concrete and earthen ponds to burn various wastes, including napalm, dumped solvents and rocket fuel generated by the rocket engine testing then going on. As a consequence of this open burning, the site remains heavily contaminated with dioxins, trichloroethylene, chromium, perchlorate, and other heavy metals and toxins. Newly released records from Boeing disclose that even napalm was disposed of by

open burning at this site. As a part of the cleanup of the entire site, the DTSC is requiring Boeing to remove thousands of cubic yards of contaminated soil from the Area I Burnpit.

You can check the DTSC website at www.dtsc.ca.gov/sitecleanup/projects/SantaSusana.cfm or call my District Office prior to August 31 for any updates.

National Geographic Looks at Car Emissions

I was asked recently to be a part of an interesting documentary that National Geographic Canada is preparing on both the history and future of automobiles. The taping was done in front of a bank of televisions at the very impressive Caltrans Traffic Control Center, where Caltrans and

the CHP work hand in hand to keep Los Angeles highways safe, efficient, and moving.



My work with alternative fuels, and my 2002 clean vehicle emissions bill, AB 1493, were both of particular interest and are likely to be a major focus of the documentary. The "Pavley Bill," as it

has become known, will require car manufacturers to make cars cleaner and more energy-efficient beginning in 2009. National Geographic sees this law, which can be met to a substantial degree with technology currently available, as a perfect lead-in to the future of the automobile. The documentary should run early next year.

Attention all Recyclers!

Please call your local disposal site before you bring any items to be recycled. I received a call just a couple of days ago from the coordinator for a number of recycling events that various cities in the 41st AD hold on a regular basis. She advised that in their enthusiasm to properly dispose of household hazardous waste and e-waste items, residents are bringing things to these collection events that the cities are not equipped to recycle. Not every site accepts every type of e-waste. Some people are simply dumping items at the sites, which the cities must then have hauled away by commercial recyclers at city expense.

I produced a brochure that identifies recycling locations all around the 41st AD, and that also includes telephone numbers and websites for those locations so that you are not surprised by arriving at a site, only to have your items rejected. You can also phone my district office and my staff will be happy to provide you with the phone number to call ahead of time. Thank you.

Rebates Available to “Green” your Home

- The California Solar Initiative, announced earlier this year and which will begin January 1, 2007, is intended to support a new solar market. The residential part of the program will provide rebates of \$2.50 per watt for both new and existing homes that install solar panels. A house with a three kilowatt system for example, which is fairly average, could receive up to a \$7,500 rebate. Add to this a Federal tax credit of \$2,000, plus the accumulating savings in electricity costs over the years, and adding solar panels start to become more affordable. Home builders are also beginning to report very high interest from home buyers when they offer green-building features.
- If you are a Los Angeles DWP customer, on July 25, the LADWP Board approved their revised solar incentive program, with the goal being 20 megawatts of solar-generated power in the City of L.A. by 2010. For more information, including their Solar Incentive Guidelines, go to <http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp000787.jsp>.
- If you are a Southern California Edison customer, they will pay you \$35 for your old refrigerator, \$50 for your old freezer, and will haul them away at no-charge. Purchase an energy-efficient ENERGY STAR refrigerator and get a \$50 rebate.

Contact your local utility and/or the California Energy Commission, and you'll find other rebates and incentives, including when you're ready to replace your old energy-guzzling appliances.

August Sustainable41 Awards

August was marked by recognitions of two businesses in the 41st AD that have chosen to incorporate sustainable practices into their daily operations.



Assm. Fran Pavley and Store Mgr. Bryan Hayes

Patagonia, Santa Monica. Patagonia is a corporate model of environmentally-friendly operation. Recycled plastic soda bottles are broken up and spun into fleece for garments. They take back old polyester garments

they sold over the years for recycling. They use only organically-grown cotton in their clothing. And much more.

And they are a leader with other businesses that have committed 1% of their net annual sales to grassroots environmental organizations. It was a

pleasure to recognize Patagonia's Santa Monica team, including store manager Bryan Hays.



l-r: Lilly Castro, Edward Lopez, Abel Castro

Lilly's Café & Pastries, Malibu. Malibu city councilmember Sharon Barovsky nominated Lilly's Café for their early support of the city's ordinance banning polystyrene foam food containers and for making a fast

transition to biodegradable containers. Malibu's beaches are some of the most beautiful in the state, and owner Lily Castro deserves recognition for her readiness to play a part in reducing beach litter.

And it's Nice to Receive Them as Well . . .

I was honored this month at a wonderful heart-warming reception hosted by supporters of the California Rehabilitation Association. Three of my colleagues in the Legislature -- Assemblymembers Barbara Matthews, Russ Bogh, and Betty Karnette - were also presented with the beautifully-framed press story that appeared in the *L.A. Times* in June. The story was entitled "Four Lawmakers Lobby From the Heart." Our bipartisan foursome, all of us having a developmentally-disabled family member, was able to have a budget augmentation of \$110 million added to the state budget this year for supported work programs through California's Regional Centers.



The reception was held to thank us for our leadership on behalf of all Californians with disabilities. Providing additional employment opportunities for disabled adults is going to allow them to gain experience, and to feel the pride of contributing to their communities.

Pacific Palisades Farmers Market

Thanks to all the residents of the Palisades community who took the time to come by my table to say hello when I held my most recent "mobile district office" at the Palisades Farmers Market. It's always wonderful to be out in the communities of the 41st AD, but especially as welcome breaks during these most intense times of the year in Sacramento.

Calabasas "Coffee Break"

My next "mobile district office" will be on September 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., at The Corner Bakery in The Commons in Calabasas. Please come by. The coffee's on me.



Assemblymember Pavley's Committee Assignments

Budget Committee
Education Committee
Transportation Committee
Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

Chair, Budget Subcommittee #3 on Resources
Chair, Select Committee on Air and Water Quality
Select Committee on Runaway Production
Select Committee on Ports
Select Committee on Title IX
Joint Committee on Emergency Services and Homeland Security

Legislative Advisory Committee – Wildlife Conservation Board
Co-Chair, Environmental Caucus
Legislative Advisory Committee – California Coastal Conservancy
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Board
Member, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Member, Commission on the Status of Women

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